

REMARKS

1. As a preliminary matter, Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 2, 4, 5, 7-10 and 12-15 have been identified as containing allowable subject matter.

2. Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hansen (4,398,618). Hansen discloses at col. 9, lines 20-29, that when the selector lever is in the neutral position and the driver dismounts from the seat, the "seat occupancy detector rotates the actuator spool," moving the "cam follower to its upper position, turning off pump 4 and applying the parking brake." Hansen further discloses at col. 9, lines 35-49, that when the driver is on the seat and the selector member is in the forward position, the "pump control switch 48 is turned on and the parking brake is released," allowing the driver to "operate the vehicle in the forward mode by depressing the accelerator pedal."

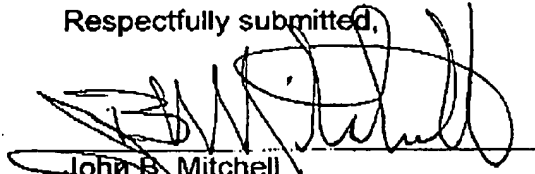
Claim 1 has been amended to locate the button for manually actuating the park brake or park lock to the hand grip on the shift lever of the controller. Hansen does not disclose this feature, and, therefore, cannot anticipate claim 1. Moreover, the differences between Hansen and the rejected claims are such that Hansen could not form the basis for an obviousness rejection. Since claim 3 depends from claim 1, and adds the further limitation that the control is operable to release the park brake or lock when moved from neutral to forward or reverse, it, too, overcomes the cited art.

3. In summary, claims 1 and 3 have been amended and claims 2, 4, 5, 7-10 and 12-15 remain in the case. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as herein presented are allowable over the cited art and rejections, and respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn and all remaining claims be allowed. No new matter has been added.

Pursuant to currently recommended Patent Office practice, the Examiner is expressly authorized to call Applicant's attorney, collect, at New Holland, Pennsylvania, if in her judgment disposition of this application could be expedited or if she considers the application ready for final disposition by other than allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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